

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

A FEW
OF THE
BEST
THINGS
TO
PLANT

62.27

1948

LIBRARY
EDUCATIONAL
DIVISION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
JAN 30 1948

U. S. Department of Agriculture

W. A. BENTS NURSERIES
FRUIT AND EVERGREEN SPECIALISTS
CRESCO, IOWA



HOW WE SERVE YOU

WHEN TO ORDER—Try to order as soon as possible, this enables us to reserve the stock for you. We ship only when stock is dormant in April or in Fall and when weather is favorable for planting.

HOW TO ORDER—Send your order in any convenient way and we will give it our most careful attention.

NO PACKING or SHIPPING

CHARGES—We prepay charges on all stock listed in our partial price sheet.

TERMS—You may send check, Money Order or cash. If credit is asked kindly ask in advance.

Planting instructions will be sent with each order.



W. A. BENTS
*Our 75th Year
Growing Things*

OUR NURSERY

For more than 70 years we have grown nursery and fruit products in this locality, right near the Minnesota line in Howard County. During these years we have tested all new varieties, and when better varieties are found they are given a place on our list. Our methods of growing are also those found most suitable for this region.

All stock in this list, if given suitable soil, location and care will prove winter hardy, productive and dependable.

All stock offered is grown by ourselves, dug fresh and handled with the least possible loss of vitality.

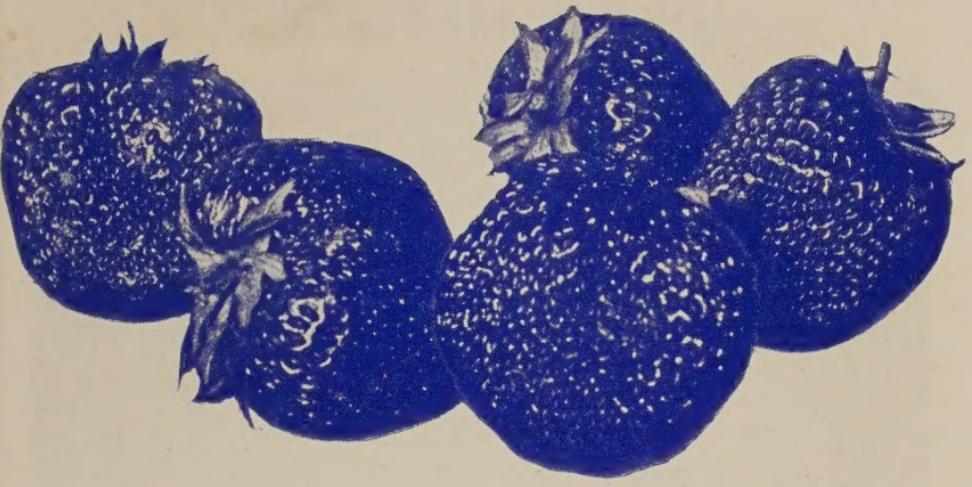
PLANNING SERVICE

The successful use of trees, to give the utmost results, often require much technical skill. We can supply this service which covers the types of trees best suited to the soil, the future development in regard to balance and architectural lines, color and blooming harmony, spacing in regard to root space and air circulation, etc., etc. We will be glad to quote prices on this service if wanted.

THE BENTS GUARANTEE

First, you are assured of the best stock which can be grown; well packed to reach you safely. If any stock proves untrue to name or damaged in shipment it will be replaced without charge.

Second, if stock fails to start advise us within two months and stock will be replaced at one-half price.



CERTIFIED STRAWBERRY PLANTS

Here are a few of the best behaved varieties for the home garden and for the commercial grower. For the home garden we advocate the planting of a few each spring, plants are much cheaper than reworking the bed and in this way disease is held to a minimum. Order clean, disease free plants. Plant in April or August on clean soil. Thin plants to six inches, fertilize in August. Cover when soil starts to freeze in November.

PREMIER—Most widely planted variety grown, fruit is large, early and of fine flavor. Plant is vigorous and disease resistant, flower not subject to frost or rain damage.

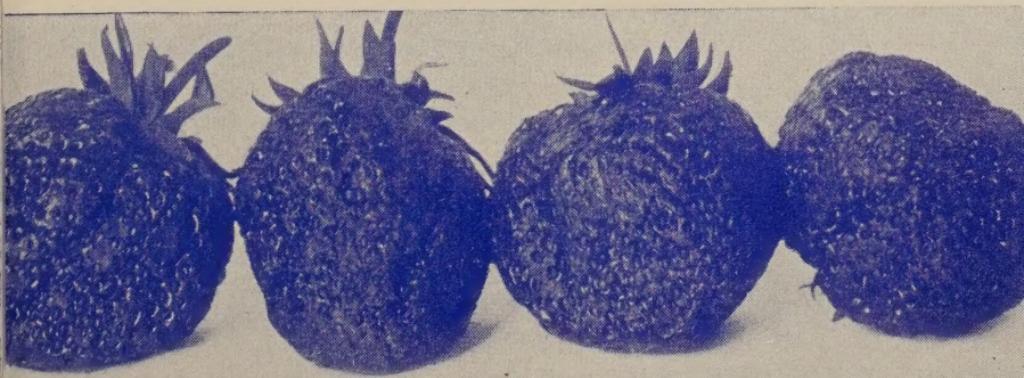
CATSKILL—Slowly becoming an important home and commercial variety. Very large fruit of finest quality, retains its size throughout the season. Plant healthy and vigorous.

CULVER—Although not as well known this variety should find a welcome with the home or commercial grower. The deep red color and large size and high yield recommend it to all growers.

CRESCO—Similar to Dunlap but larger, more glossy lustre, ripens evenly from calyx to tip. Heavy yields, plant more vigorous and healthy.

DUNLAP—An old variety still widely planted.

CHEYENNE No. 3—Hybrid (Wild 'F. Ovatis x Fairfax') From USDA. Hardy without covering in the far north. Fruit medium size, of finest quality. Valuable for naturalizing in any climate.



EVERBEARING STRAWBERRY

ROCKHILL (Wayzata)—The finest quality of any berry grown. Fruit large waxy scarlet, ripens evenly in cool weather. Nonacid and a fragrant aroma. Plant vigorous, deep green and healthy. Grow in hills and pinch out one third of the blossom stems when plant becomes overloaded or shows signs of losing vigor.

GEMZATA (Bents Strain)—We strongly recommend this berry as an all purpose strawberry. June crop is heavy and if fertilized and thinned will produce heavy again in fall. Fruit very large and of fine quality.

SCARLET GEM—Another busy man's berry. Fruit very large and good quality. Behaves well on a wide range of soils and climate.



RASPBERRIES or CANEBERRIES

Down through the years we have grown raspberries for plants and fruit for the local markets, testing each new variety as it comes from the originator. We feel confident we can please the home gardener or commercial grower with our fresh dug and certified plants.

Plan a new planting each four or five years. Plant disease free plants on clean soil. Pinch back the new growth when it reaches two feet. Remove canes after they have fruited. Fertilize and mulch in August.

HYBRID PURPLES (*Rubus Neglectus*)

POTOMAC—The most dependable variety we have found. Thrives on all soils, very productive, large, easy to pick, deep purple fruit of finest dessert or canning quality. Vigorous upright canes, almost thornless, disease resistant and very winter hardy.

MARION—A very large hybrid, deep wine red fruit of fine quality, ripens evenly and very tasty. Strong upright and branching growth, dependable on most soils.

RUDDY—More red than the other purples, this variety comes from the Dakotas and is very winter hardy. Fruit conical, very fine quality, growth vigorous and resistant to disease. Ripens two weeks before Potomac.

RED RASPBERRY (*R. Stigosus*)

Same culture but do not pinch new growth.

LATHAM (Red Path Strain)—Originated in Minnesota, this variety has become the most widely planted raspberry in the northern states. Fruit large and fine quality, plant healthy and vigorous.

SUNRISE—Of recent introduction by our USDA. Very early disease resistant red of fine quality.

BLACK (Blackcaps) *R. Occidentalis*

BRISTOL—From the many varieties we have grown the Bristol has slowly won the top place in our plantings and we are growing it in quantity. Fruit large and glossy. Plant vigorous and winter hardy.

GOOSEBERRY and CURRANT

These shrubs act as host to the White Pine Blister Rust and cannot be shipped outside Iowa.

RED LAKE CURRANT—Large well formed clusters of large fruit.

CHERRY CURRANT—Large fruit, productive and dependable.

POORMAN GOOSEBERRY—Large red fruit, excellent quality.

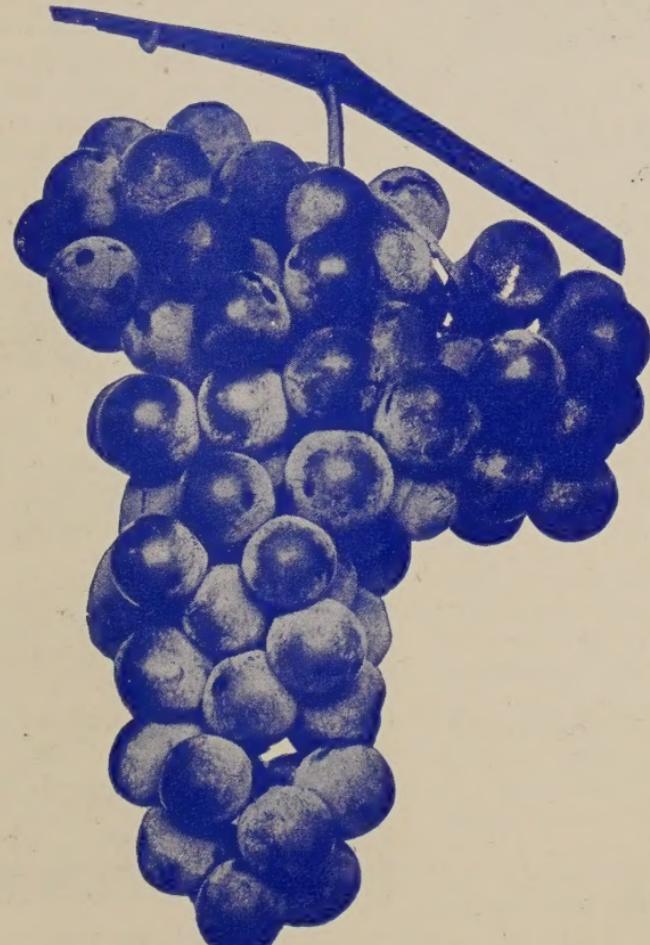
GRAPES (*Vitis*)

FREDONIA—A new, early, high quality grape from the New York Plant Breeding farm. Vigorous growth, hardy and dependable.

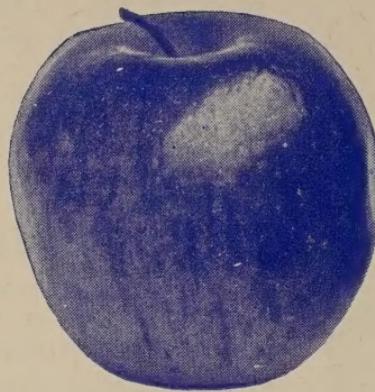
CONCORD—The well known black grape widely planted.

MOONBEAM—A new grape from Minnesota, hardy and reliable. Fruit large, golden green when ripe.

DELAWARE—Medium size fruit, very sweet and tasty, red.



BENTS NEW AND SUPERIOR APPLE TREES



The useful life of Apple trees, in this locality, is usually 20 to 30 years. After that time they become a harboring place for insects and disease. A few new trees, planted on clean ground, will provide much satisfaction, especially the newer and superior varieties.

EARLY VARIETIES

ANOKA—Dwarf tree which requires but little room. Bears very young, two weeks earlier than Duchess.

BEACON—A rich red, medium size apple of Duchess season. Hardy throughout the north.

TETOFSKY (Harvest)—Very early, medium size fine quality eating apple.

RED DUCHESS—A new deeper red strain of the old well known Duchess. Large flat early strain.

FALL VARIETIES



✓ **CORTLAND**—A new, proven apple of McIntosh flavor. Deep red, snow white flesh, crisp and mild sweet.

✓ **SNOW APPLE (Fameuse)**—Early fall apple, snow white flesh of high quality. An old time favorite.

✓ **LONGFIELD**—A variety very tolerant to the heavier soils. Fruit medium size, yellow, good quality.

WEALTHY—Well known fall apple. Juicy and sub-sweet, hardy and dependable.

MINNEHAHA—Annual bearing tree, very hardy. Fruit mild sweet, crisp. Season of Wealthy.

MILTON—Another McIntosh strain. Very large and attractive. Flesh pure white and tasty.

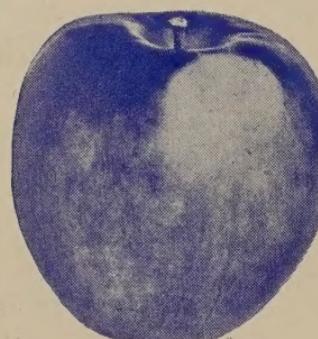
FARNSWORTH—Very large golden apple, mild sweet and good eating or cooking quality. Season of Wealthy.

WINTER VARIETIES

PRAIRIE SPY—A heavy cropper. Firm, highest quality, long keeping apple.

HARALSON—Another Minnesota winter keeping apple becoming well known.

MINNESOTA 790—Large, uniform fruit of finest baking and cooking quality. Tree thrifty and dependable.

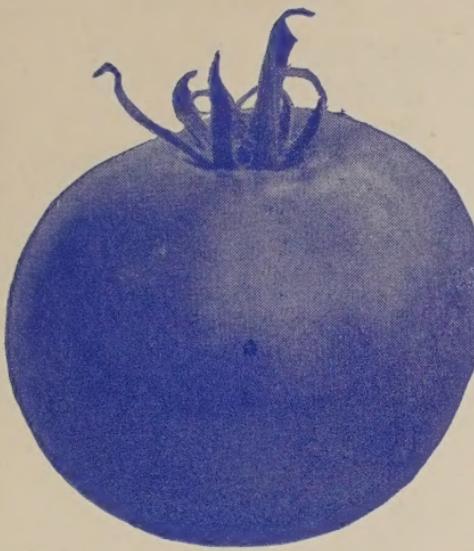


✓ **NORTH WESTERN GREENING**—The large yellow winter apple well known in many orchards.

✓ **MIN-JON**—A Minnesota Jonathan, hardy, attractive red. Bears regularly. Good quality.

✓ **FIRESIDE**—A Minnesota Delicious. Hardy, dependable and very fine quality.

GARDEN PLANTS



From our hot beds we supply many vegetable and flower plants of the most dependable varieties. They are grown from the very best seed, treated against fungus disease and grown in sterilized soil. We start shipping plants May 15th.

TOMATO

STOKESDALE (Certified)

The earliest of the really good tomatoes.

RUTGERS (Certified)

A midseason deep red tomato of exceptionally good quality.

MASTER MARGLOBE (Certified)—Very uniform and smooth, rich red and holding its color well after cooking. Very dependable.

CELERY

A pascal type which stands dry soils well.

EGGPLANT

BLACK BEAUTY—Early and reliable.

SWEET PEPPER

HARRIS EARLY—A fine sweet pepper.

CABBAGE

COPENHAGEN MARKET

Early and uniform.

MARION MARKET

Mid-season or early.

GOLDEN ACRE

Early yellows resistant.

DANISH BALL HEAD

A dependable late.



CAULIFLOWER

BURPEE'S DRY WEATHER

A fine heading variety.

GARDEN HUCKLEBERRY

Shiny black berries, very fine for pie.

GROUND CHERRY

Semiupright growth, productive.

RHUBARB

McDONALD

A vigorous growing, nonseed bearing variety. Stalk bright red, low in acid and high in sugar content.

CANADIAN RED (Chipman)

Stalk bright red and extending through the stalk, low acid and high sugar content.

ASPARAGUS

PARADISE

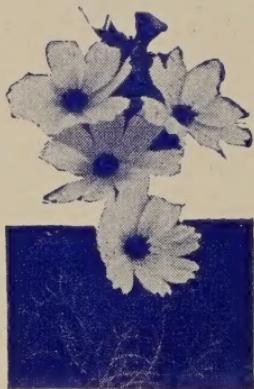
A new California introduction. Very vigorous, producing much more than older varieties. Rust resistant.

ANNUAL FLOWERS

ASTER
COSMOS
MARIGOLD
PETUNIA (Balcony Mixed)
SALVIA
SCABIOSA
ZINNIAS
SNAPDRAGON



MARIGOLD



COSMOS



SALVIA

BENTS BEAUTIFUL PEONIES

Peonies are seldom affected by insects or disease. Plant only in fall and not more than two inches below surface.

SMOTZI (Lancinatus)—The single scarlet blooms are produced freely on strong two foot stems, foliage fern like and very healthy and beautiful. One of the finest early peonies, blooms three weeks ahead of common varieties.

OFFICINALIS RUBRA—Blooming two weeks before the regular peonies this is another must have variety. Bloom is rich scarlet red, foliage fine and beautiful.



PEONIES

PLANT BENTS EVERGREENS FOR YEAR AROUND BEAUTY

Cool and refreshing in summer, colorful and warm in the deep of winter, no other improvement adds so much as a good amount of evergreens. They require a location away from leaf bearing trees.



DOUGLAS FIR

DOUGLAS FIR—This tree does well on almost all soils and locations, immune to spider and other disease, rather scrubby when small but developing into beautiful trees in older age.

WHITE SPRUCE—A native of Minnesota and Wisconsin, this fast growing, dense tree is well suited to our deep soils, shapely and dependable.

WHITE PINE—This tree is well suited to N. E. Iowa on the drier upland soils, needs some wind protection for the first few years. We cannot sell or ship White Pine outside Iowa.

ARBOR VITAE—Dense tree holding its lower branches even in dense shade, enjoys moist soil which does not bake or crack.

BALSAM FIR—Enjoys a north or east slope of sandy or gravelly soils.



COLORADO SPRUCE—Very shapely and beautiful in older age, some developing the silvery blue shade.

**W. A. BENTS NURSERIES
CRESCO, IOWA**

WINDBREAK MATERIAL

On some farms where the location, fencing or established trees do not warrant planting the evergreens we can supply a few deciduous trees.

SOFT MAPLE (Silver Maple)—If cut back when planted this will develop a thick shelter; allowed to grow natural, it forms a high crowned, fast growing tree.

LAUREL LEAF WILLOW (Wax Willow)—The deep green shiny leaf willow, thrives on moist soils, quite immune to canker.

TARTARIAN HONEYSUCKLE—Dense, heavy branched type selected for shelter planting, this shrub grows to 12 or 14 feet yet occupies but small space allowing crops to be grown close.



WHITE PINE



MUGHO PINE

LANDSCAPE MATERIAL SPECIMEN EVERGREENS

DOUGLAS FIR—Very dependable conical growing tree for grouping, screens or permanent Christmas tree.

COLORADO BLUE SPRUCE—Rich blue or silvery luster, needs an open location.

AUSTRIAN PINE—A very picturesque pine, fine for screens or background planting.

WHITE SPRUCE—Shapely, dense silvery blue, very good where shapely trees are needed in quantity.

MUGHO PINE—Dwarf shapely pine of deep green, widely used in foundation plantings, cemetery use, etc.

SWISS STONE PINE—More vigorous than Mugho, fine for medium height groups, along drives, walks, etc.

PYRAMIDAL ARBOR VITAE—Tall, slender growth, very useful in formal plantings, near pools or cemetery plantings.

WHITE PINE—Fine for background use, skyline effects or where tall evergreens are wanted, stately and beautiful.

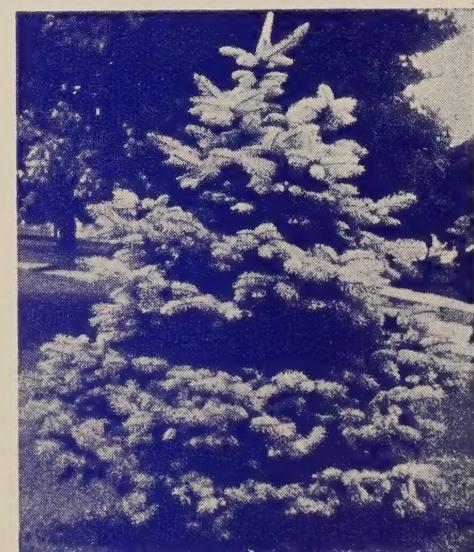
HEMLOCK—Often called the most graceful and beautiful conifer, enjoys afternoon shade and will survive roots from hardwood trees, can be sheared to shape or developed into a tall, graceful and weeping tree.

UPRIGHT YEW—Bright waxy green summer and winter, stands shearing very well, can be used in deep shade where other trees will not survive.

SPREADING YEW—Spreading type so useful where a low dwarf bright attractive evergreen is wanted, stands all types of shaded soils.

PFITZERS JUNIPER—Spreading juniper of bright silvery color, very useful in hot and dry locations, not affected by cedar rusts.

CONCOLOR FIR—Another beautiful evergreen, often blue or silvery, branches dense and graceful. In older plantings this is prized as the most beautiful tall evergreen.



COLORADO SPRUCE

SHADE AND LAWN TREES



SUGAR MAPLE

SUGAR MAPLE (Hard Maple)
—Shapely long lived tree, egg shape crown in older trees, rich golden or scarlet coloring in fall.

ELM (American)
—Large shapely, often spreading in old age, fine where large trees are wanted, grows well on almost all soils.

ELM (Corkbark)
—Tall, shapely trees, with horizontal branches which seldom split, bark very rough and unusual.

BASSWOOD —
Tall growing trees of rapid growth, large well.

beautiful overlapping leaves, stands wet soil well.

HACKBERRY —Fast growing rugged tree resembling an elm. Horizontal branches which seldom split. Very drought resistant and dependable.

BURR OAK —Rugged picturesque tree developing much beauty with age, majestic and long lived.

NORWAY MAPLE —Shapely ball crown, the deep green leaves unfold in early spring and remain into late fall.

SWEDLERI MAPLE (Red Maple) —Sport of the Norway Maple, leaves unfold rich red changing to deep bronze during summer and fall.

COFFEE TREE —Stately tall tree, heavy branches, sumac-like leaves, attractive large seed pods remaining through winter, rough attractive bark.

MAY DAY TREE —Dwarf tree of much beauty, the pure white, cherry-like flowers bloom before the leaves unfold in early spring.

HOPA CRAB —Medium size at maturity makes it valuable as a yard tree, rich red flowers, red fruit.

WILD CRAB —Grown so they will transplant, dwarf growth, rich pink flowers, waxy green leaves turning scarlet with frost.

LOMBARDY POPLAR —Tall, slender, fast growing, fine for skyline planting.

NIobe WEEPING WILLOW —Golden bark, needs moist soil and open location.

BUTTERNUT —Unlike the walnut these can be replanted when quite large. Good shade and useful nuts.

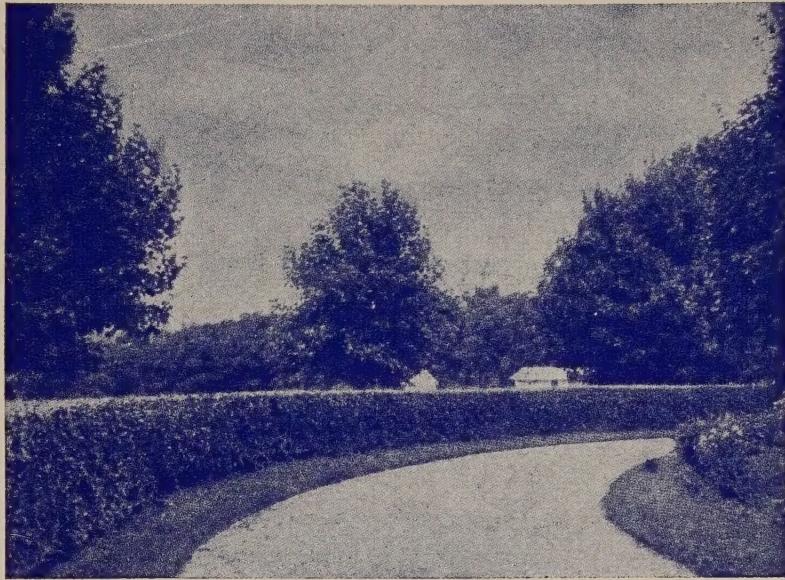
SHRUBS

To add color and fragrance to your garden

RED ROTHOMEGENSIS LILAC —A free flowering lilac on long slender branches, matures to seven or eight feet. Very beautiful as a specimen, hedge or screen.

SYRINGA VIRGINALIS —A dwarf maturing at six or seven feet. Flowers large, semidouble and fragrant. The pure

HEDGE MATERIAL



AMUR RIVER PRIVET

**Hedges give a finished look to your home—
like a frame adds to a picture**

ALPINE CURRANT —Dense clean dwarf shrub, unfolding the light green leaves in early spring and retaining them into late fall. Grows to three feet. Stands close shearing well.

DWARF NINEBARK —Attractive dense fine branched shrub, retains the small deep green leaves from early spring to late fall. Hardy, disease free and stands clipping very well.

AMUR RIVER PRIVET —Shiny deep green leaves into early winter. Clean and disease free, stands severe shearing well.

TARTARIAN HONEYSUCKLE —A tall growing hedge, material reaching to ten or twelve feet at maturity. Clean and dependable where a tall hedge, screen or background is wanted.

FRUITS AND TREES FOR NATURALIZING

On almost every farm some corner, thicket or gully could be given over to Nature to the advantage of the owner. Many fruits of the hardier strains will readily acclimate themselves to the environment.

BUSH CHERRY —Useful when other fruit fails.

SUNRISE RASPBERRY —Spreads easily, enjoys partial shade.

BLACKBERRY —Enjoys shade and wind protection.

ELDERBERRY —Usually produces abundantly.

WILD PLUM —Enjoys gravelly or stony soils.

CHEYENNE No. 3 STRAWBERRY —Prolific and able to naturalize.

WALNUT —Likes alluvial soils and uniform moisture.

BUTTERNUT —Stands the hillside and drier locations.

HIGH BUSH CRANBERRY —Fruit useful for jams and jellies.
May we quote special prices for Natural plantings?

white flowers are borne abundantly and a few scattered throughout the summer.

CONGO LILAC —A very deep wine colored hybrid lilac of exceptional size and beauty.

TAMARIX HISPIDA —The fernlike shrub of much beauty. Flowers light pink throughout the summer. Cut back severely for best results.

SPIREA VAN HOUTTEI —The well known Bridal Wreath.

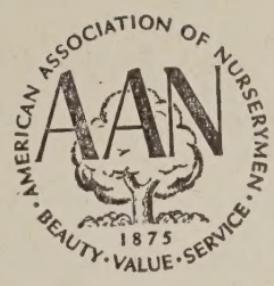
FROBELS SPIREA —Flat red blooms in abundance in midsummer. Grows to three feet.

BENTS

"*Direct To You*"

— 1948 —

PRICES



Please ask for special prices on larger sizes and for stock not listed at prepaid prices.



JUNE BEARING STRAWBERRIES

Doubly inspected for Red Steel and Yellows

PREMIER, CATSKILL and CULVER

\$2.25 per 100 \$18.00 per 1000

CHEYENNE NO. 3—\$3.50 per 100

CRESCO and DUNLAP

\$2.00 per 100 \$16.00 per 1000

EVERBEARING STRAWBERRIES

ROCKHILL 26 (Wayzata)

\$5.50 per 100 \$15.00 per 300

GEMZATA—\$4.00 per 100 \$11.00 per 300

SCARLET GEM—\$3.00 per 100, \$8.00 per 300

RASPBERRIES

POTOMAC HYBRED (Purple)

\$3.00 per 25 \$11.00 per 100 \$90.00 per M

MARION HYBRED (Large purple)

\$3.00 per 25 \$11.00 per 100 \$85.00 per M

RUDDY (Red Hybred)

\$3.75 per 25 \$13.50 per 100

LATHAM (Best Red)

\$3.00 per 25 \$11.00 per 100

BRISTOL (Best Black)

\$3.00 per 25 \$11.00 per 100

SUNRISE (Early Red)

\$2.85 per 25 \$10.00 per 100

RHUBARB

Mc DONALD—3 for \$1.00 \$30.00 per 100

CANADIAN RED—2 for \$1.00

ASPARAGUS

PARADISE (True Type)

\$2.00 per 25 \$7.00 per 100

APPLE (Root grafted on Hardy Roots)

Anoka	Red Duchess	Yellow
Beacon	Milton	Transparent
Minnehaha	Wealthy	Farnsworth
Snow	Harters Early	St. Lawrence
Minnesota 790	Prairie Spy	Red Flesh
Whitney Crab		Haralson

5/6 foot No. 1 \$1.25 each \$11.50 per 10
4/5 foot No. 1 \$1.00 each \$ 9.50 per 10.

No Apple shipped into Western States

GRAPES—Fredonia, Concord, Moonbeam, Delaware,

Niagara 3 for \$1.00	\$3.00 per 10
-------------------------	---------------

EVERGREENS—(Each order dug at time of shipping)DOUGLASS FIR, WHITE SPRUCE
ARBOR VITAE

12-15 inch XX	\$30.00 per 100
15-18 inch XX	35.00 per 100
18-24 inch XXX	45.00 per 100
2-3 ft. XXX	60.00 per 100

25 or more supplied at the 100 rate

SPECIMEN EVERGREENS

Douglas Fir.....	18 in.	\$1.50	2 ft.	\$2.00
Colorado Blue Spruce (Select).....			2 ft.	4.75
White Spruce.....	18 in.	\$1.00	2 ft.	1.50
Black Hills Spruce.....	18 in.	\$1.50	2 ft.	2.00
Concolor Fir (Select).....			2 ft.	4.75
Pyramidal Arbor Vitae			2 ft.	4.00
Spreading Yew			2 ft.	6.00
Pfitzer's Juniper			2 ft.	4.75
Platt River Juniper			2 ft.	4.00
American Arbor Vitae			2 ft.	2.00

We list only the sizes convenient to ship express. We can supply all varieties in larger sizes and will be pleased to quote special prices.

SHADE AND LAWN TREES

Hard Maple (Sugar Maple).....	6 ft.	\$2.75
Norway Maple	6 ft.	2.75
American Elm	8 ft.	2.25
Hackberry	8 ft.	2.25
May Day Tree	6 ft.	2.25
Mountain Ash	8 ft.	2.25
Red Oak (True)	6 ft.	2.00
Cut Leaf Birch	6 ft.	3.35
Swedleri Maple	6 ft.	3.00

HEDGE MATERIAL

Dwarf Ninebark, 18-24 in.....	.16	each
Amur River Privet, 18-24 in.....	.16	each
Titarian Honeysuckle, 18-24 in.....	.16	each

EARLY FLOWERING PEONIES

Smotzi or Officinalis Rubra.....	\$1.50	each
----------------------------------	--------	------

GARDEN PLANTS

Tomato	30c	doz.	\$2.00	per 100
Cabbage	25c	doz.	1.75	per 100
Cauliflower	35c	doz.	2.75	per 100
Celery	25c	doz.	1.50	per 100
Egg Plant	35c	doz.		
Ground Cherry	25c	doz.		
Huckleberry	25c	doz.		
Pepper	35c	doz.		
Aster, Cosmos, Marigolds, Petunia, Scabiosa.				
Zinnia, Snapdragon			35c	doz.
Salvia			50c	doz.

PLEASE ORDER EARLY!

This enables us to serve you better.

W. A. Bents Nurseries

Fruits and Evergreens

CRESCO, IOWA